LETTERS - Q

DRAWER 26

MEETING LINCOLN - [illegible]

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Meeting Lincoln

Original letters describing encounters with the 16th President of the United States

Surnames beginning with

Q

From the files of the
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71.2009.085 02194

Quigley, James J. | Independence Hall, Phial. | Philadelphia, Pa.

Quimby, Charles Hatch | Ford's theatre Assassination | Fort Wayne, Ind.

"I saw Lincoln"

Full name CHARLES HATCH QUIMBY

Present Address 1124 W. WASHINGTON, BLVD. Ft Wayne

Date of Birth Year 1844 Month AUG. Day 26

Place of Birth STEUBENVILLE, JEFFERSON Co, OHIO

Where you saw Lincoln FORD'S THEATRE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

When you saw Lincoln ATTENDING THEATRE

Remarks:-

HEARD SHOT & SAW LINCOLN FALL WHEN ASSINATED BY BOOTH.

Quigley, James J. Independence Hall, Phial. Philadelphia, Pa.

QUIMBY, C. H.

Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Death Takes C. H. Quimby

News Sentinel 12-5-32

Veteran Of Civil War Who Saw Lincoln Assassinated Dies At Home Here; Was Former Rail Engineer.

Death came early today to Charles Hatch Quimby, aged 88, who ran away from home as a youth to enter the Union Army as a drummer boy, and who later witnessed the assassination of Abraham Lincoln.

Mr. Quimby, who had lived in Fort Wayne for the past 18 years and was well known here, died of a heart attack about 5 a.m. in his sleep at his residence, 1124 West Washington Boulevard. He had been in his usual good health upon retiring Friday night.

The deceased had been a passenger engineer on the Pennsylvania Railroad for 40 years and worked out of Pittsburgh, Pa. He was a member of Trinity Episcopal Church here and of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Surviving are two sons, W. C. Quimby, of Fort Wayne, and Charles E. Quimby, of Philadelphia, Pa., a daughter, Mrs. J. M. Porter, of Fort Wayne, and three grandchildren. His wife, Emily L. Quimby, died about seven years ago.

Funeral services will be held probably Monday afternoon. Burial will be in Lindenwood Cemetery. The family has requested that flowers please be omitted. The body was removed to J. C. Peltier & Sons' Funeral Home and will be taken to the home of the son, W. C. Quimby, 2440 Fairfield Avenue, Sunday afternoon.

Was Native Of Ohio.

Mr. Quimby was born at Steubenville, O., August 26, 1844, and had lived there until he ran away to enter the Union Army during the Civil War. He served two 100-day enlistments in the One Hundred Fifty-seventh Regiment of the Union Army.

The deceased was serving as a prisoner guard when he witnessed the fatal shooting of the Great Emancipator in Ford Theatre in Washington, D. C., by John Wilkes Booth. Mr. Quimby and a group of soldiers had returned to Washington from a trip to Camp Delaware, where they had taken Confederate prisoners.

The soldiers were permitted to attend the theatre on the fatal night. Mr. Quimby heard the shot which the assassin fired into the body of the President, and saw Lincoln slump after being shot. However, he did not see Booth flee from the theatre.

The deceased had come to Fort Wayne from Pittsburgh, Pa. Had his wife lived three months longer, they would have celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary.

Quigley. James J. Independence Hall, Phial. Philadelphia, Pa.

Quimby, C. H. Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Man Now Living Here Saw Assassination Of Lincoln

Ft. W. News Sentinel 9-9-32

But for an erroneous report from a small New York town that the citizens of that community were to honor the only man yet alive who witnessed the assassination of Abraham Lincoln it might have remained unknown to Fort Wayne citizens that in their own city is another individual who was present in Ford's Theatre on the occasion of the shooting of the beloved President.

Charles H. Quimby, who resides at 1134 West Washington Boulevard, is one of the admittedly very few persons who saw the fatal wounding of the "Great Emancipator." According to Mr. Quimby, who is 88 years old and a member of the G. A. R., a group of soldiers in the One Hundred Fifty-seventh Regiment of the Union Forces had returned to Washington on April 14, 1865, from a trip south to Camp Delaware, where they had taken some Confederate prisoners. Upon arrival at Washington they were notified that they might spend the evening at Ford's Theatre.

Mr. Quimby and his group sat toward the rear of the theatre and on the opposite side from that on which the President's box was located. Mr. Quimby recalls distinctly hearing the shot fired and seeing Lincoln, who was about 60 feet from him, slump over in his chair. Immediately the word spread that the President had been shot, according to Mr. Quimby, and the theatre was soon in an uproar. Mr. Quimby did not see John Wilkes Booth jump to the stage.

Charles H. Quimby.

Mr. Quimby stated that numerous details surrounding the assassination have escaped his memory. Mr. Quimby, who is remarkably active for his age, served two separate 100-day peiods in the Union Forces, because of the fact that he was too young to be enlisted as a regular soldier. In 1865, he was serving as a prisoner guard and prior to that, while stationed in Cumberland, N. C., had been instrumental in warding off an enemy attack by the capture of three rebel spies. He also saw other action. He is a native of Steubenville, O., having come here ten years ago.

Quigley, James J. Independence Hall, Phial. Philadelphia, Pa.

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February 24, 1932.

Mr. Howard K. Terry,
9528 Wisteria Street,
Bustleton, Phila., Pa.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of February 22, 1932, but can give you very little information about Abraham Lincoln as I was only a little boy then, I never had any personal conversation with him, but often saw him and cheered as he went by. I saw Lincoln when he raised the flag at Independence Hall, February 22, 1861.

I served in the 95th Pa. Regt.

I am the Quartermaster of Post 2 G. A. R., 667-69 N. 12th St

Yours truly,

James J. Quigley

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